Miss. (Lawrence):

1550

The Wide World

Have you read the words of Bishop Lawrence in his opening sermon to the General Convention? They are worth your while.

CHRISTIAN missions have justified themselves and confounded their critics. While Christian peoples have entered other nations for conquest, commerce, exploitation or travel, Christian missionaries have been quietly teaching, healing, comforting, helping, and uplifting the people. They have gone, not to get but to give. To the trader the Chinaman is a trader; to the missionary the Chinaman is a brother. With the Christian faith always goes the sacredness of the individual, the integrity and the rights of man as man; hence civic freedom, self-government, democracy. With the blessings of Christian hope the missionary has taken also the blessings of civic freedom. . . . Any man who has no use for missions is as much out of date as an old flint-lock gun. Life moves too rapidly in these days for us even to stop and look at him.

When the Church plans for world-wide missions, she plans for the honor and spiritual wealth of this country, as well as for the welfare of distant people. Men everywhere are discovering that the Saviour's command, 'Go ye into all the world,' has philosophy as well as religion in it. The greatest glory of the Church throughout the ages has been in the fact that in spite of timidity and cynicism her heroes have thrust her outposts

"I place no value on anything I have or possess except in relation to the Kingdom of God."

David Livingston

to the ends of the world, in the perfect confidence that this Faith is the Victory that overcometh the world.

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Every day in the year the Board of Missions has to send to the field an average of $3,000 for the support of the Church's Missions in 40 home dioceses, 23 domestic missionary districts and 10 foreign districts.

This amount makes possible the service of 23 bishops and 1377 missionaries in the home field, of 10 bishops and 232 missionaries abroad, with 1,000 native helpers.

¶

The transforming power of Christianity is evidenced in a striking statement made by Bishop Morrison in one of the joint sessions of the recent General Convention. The instinct of revenge is one of the fundamental impulses of the Indian. But there is one power which can change even that. The Bishop told how the fourteenth of June is the great holiday of the Ojibways, and is the time he chooses for his visitation. This year many Sioux were present to join in the annual reunion. One of the Ojibway native priests administered the chalice to Sioux who in years past had killed his father; they had told him how bravely his father had died in battle against them. But peace and brotherly affection had brought them together by the Blood of the Cross.

Not "How much of my money shall I give to God?"
but "How much of God's money shall
I keep for myself?"

The central expenses for administration for the year ending September 1, 1913, represented $8\frac{7}{10}$ per cent. of the gross sum handled. Of this $3\frac{1}{10}$ per cent. was used for office expenses, salaries, etc., the remaining $5\frac{6}{10}$ for making the work known, or what a business house would call "promotion."

¶

Bishop Ferguson says that in times past the Church's workers in Africa had to go where they were neither invited nor wanted in order to deliver the Christian message. A wonderful change, he declares, is now taking place, especially where the tribes have come in contact with civilization. They are manifesting a desire for the light as never before. Applications have been received from several tribes, begging that mission stations be planted among them.

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Bishop Graves of Shanghai says: "The real emergency is in the United States rather than in China—the emergency which calls us to seize for God the marvelous opportunities He is placing before us. We need to rise to the realization of the fact that our missions are not small and feeble, but powerful in their influence upon the national life of China. Chinese laymen are showing by their gifts how fully they realize what a force for upbuilding their national and moral life our work among them is. And we need, above all other needs, men for the work.

"And he said unto him, 'How much owest thou unto my lord?'"

HOW MUCH OWEST THOU?

THE path made smooth beneath thy feet,
The way made plain before thy face,
He brings thy soul, with patience sweet,
Unto His love's appointed place.
And how much owest thou?

The thing thou could'st not be, He is;
The goal thou could'st not, He has won;
About thee throng His ministries,
Before thee shine the lights of home.
And how much owest thou?

Yet thousands wander, far from light;
Poor sheep look up, and are not fed;
His loved ones perish in the night—
Thy brothers faint for lack of bread.
Then how much owest thou?

¶

A religious census at the Imperial University in Tokyo has revealed the distressing fact that more than 4,000 of the students frankly declared themselves either atheist or agnostic. Only eight desired to record their allegiance to Shinto. Fifty were Buddhists and sixty were Christians.

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The Church's prosperity is the test of our fidelity as Christians.—*Bishop Lloyd.*

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Copies of this leaflet can be obtained in any quantity from the Board of Missions, 281 Fourth Avenue, New York, by asking for Leaflet No. 980.

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